Leader: 1 Give ear, O My people, to My law: incline your ears to the words of My mouth.

Response: **2 I will open My mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old:**

Leader: 3 Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us.

Response: **4 We will not hide them from their children, shewing to the generation to come the praises of the Lord, and His strength, and His wonderful works that He hath done.**

Leader: 5 For He established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which He commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children:

Response: **6 That the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and declare them to their children:**

Leader: 7 That they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments:

Response: **8 And might not be as their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation; a generation that set not their heart aright, and whose spirit was not stedfast with God.**

Leader: 9 The children of Ephraim, being armed, and carrying bows, turned back in the day of battle.

Response: **10 They kept not the covenant of God, and refused to walk in His law;**

Leader: 11 And forgat His works, and His wonders that He had shewed them.

Response: **12 Marvellous things did He in the sight of their fathers, in the land of Egypt, in the field of Zoan.**

Leader: 13 He divided the sea, and caused them to pass through; and He made the waters to stand as an heap.

Response: **14 In the daytime also He led them with a cloud, and all the night with a light of fire.**

Leader: 15 He clave the rocks in the wilderness, and gave them drink as out of the great depths.

Response: **16 He brought streams also out of the rock, and caused waters to run down like rivers.**

Leader: 17 And they sinned yet more against Him by provoking the most High in the wilderness.

Response: **18 And they tempted God in their heart by asking meat for their lust.**

Leader: 19 Yea, they spake against God; they said, Can God furnish a table in the wilderness?

Response: **20 Behold, He smote the rock, that the waters gushed out, and the streams overflowed; can He give bread also? can he provide flesh for His people?**

Leader: 21 Therefore the Lord heard this, and was wroth: so a fire was kindled against Jacob, and anger also came up against Israel;

Response: **22 Because they believed not in God, and trusted not in His salvation:**

Leader: 23 Though He had commanded the clouds from above, and opened the doors of heaven,

Response: **24 And had rained down manna upon them to eat, and had given them of the corn of heaven.**

Leader: 25 Man did eat angels' food: He sent them meat to the full.

Response: **26 He caused an east wind to blow in the heaven: and by His power he brought in the south wind.**

Leader: 27 He rained flesh also upon them as dust, and feathered fowls like as the sand of the sea:

Response: **28 And he let it fall in the midst of their camp, round about their habitations.**

Leader: 29 So they did eat, and were well filled: for He gave them their own desire;

Response: **30 They were not estranged from their lust. But while their meat was yet in their mouths,**

Leader: 31 The wrath of God came upon them, and slew the fattest of them, and smote down the chosen men of Israel.

Response: **32 For all this they sinned still, and believed not for His wondrous works.**

Leader: 33 Therefore their days did He consume in vanity, and their years in trouble.

Response: **34 When He slew them, then they sought Him: and they returned and enquired early after God.**

Leader: 35 And they remembered that God was their rock, and the high God their redeemer.

Response: **36 Nevertheless they did flatter Him with their mouth, and they lied unto Him with their tongues.**

Leader: 37 For their heart was not right with Him, neither were they stedfast in His covenant.

Response: **38 But He, being full of compassion, forgave their iniquity, and destroyed them not: yea, many a time turned he His anger away, and did not stir up all His wrath.**

Leader: 39 For He remembered that they were but flesh; a wind that passeth away, and cometh not again.

Response: **40 How oft did they provoke Him in the wilderness, and grieve Him in the desert!**

Leader: 41 Yea, they turned back and tempted God, and limited the Holy One of Israel.

Response: **42 They remembered not His hand, nor the day when He delivered them from the enemy.**

Leader: 43 How He had wrought His signs in Egypt, and His wonders in the field of Zoan.

Response: **44 And had turned their rivers into blood; and their floods, that they could not drink.**

Leader: 45 He sent divers sorts of flies among them, which devoured them; and frogs, which destroyed them.

Response: **46 He gave also their increase unto the caterpiller, and their labour unto the locust.**

Leader: 47 He destroyed their vines with hail, and their sycomore trees with frost.

Response: **48 He gave up their cattle also to the hail, and their flocks to hot thunderbolts.**

Leader: 49 He cast upon them the fierceness of His anger, wrath, and indignation, and trouble, by sending evil angels among them.

Response: **50 He made a way to his anger; He spared not their soul from death, but gave their life over to the pestilence;**

Leader: 51 And smote all the firstborn in Egypt; the chief of their strength in the tabernacles of Ham:

Response: **52 But made His own people to go forth like sheep, and guided them in the wilderness like a flock.**

Leader: 53 And He led them on safely, so that they feared not: but the sea overwhelmed their enemies.

Response: **54 And He brought them to the border of His sanctuary, even to this mountain, which His right hand had purchased.**

Leader: 55 He cast out the heathen also before them, and divided them an inheritance by line, and made the tribes of Israel to dwell in their tents.

Response: **56 Yet they tempted and provoked the most high God, and kept not His testimonies:**

Leader: 57 But turned back, and dealt unfaithfully like their fathers: they were turned aside like a deceitful bow.

Response: **58 For they provoked Him to anger with their high places, and moved him to jealousy with their graven images.**

Leader: 59 When God heard this, He was wroth, and greatly abhorred Israel:

Response: **60 So that He forsook the tabernacle of Shiloh, the tent which He placed among men;**

Leader: 61 And delivered His strength into captivity, and His glory into the enemy's hand.

Response: **62 He gave His people over also unto the sword; and was wroth with His inheritance.**

Leader: 63 The fire consumed their young men; and their maidens were not given to marriage.

Response: **64 Their priests fell by the sword; and their widows made no lamentation.**

Leader: 65 Then the Lord awaked as one out of sleep, and like a mighty man that shouteth by reason of wine.

Response: **66 And He smote His enemies in the hinder parts: He put them to a perpetual reproach.**

Leader: 67 Moreover He refused the tabernacle of Joseph, and chose not the tribe of Ephraim:

Response: **68 But chose the tribe of Judah, the mount Zion which He loved.**

Leader: 69 And He built His sanctuary like high palaces, like the earth which He hath established for ever.

Response: **70 He chose David also His servant, and took Him from the sheepfolds:**

Leader: 71 From following the ewes great with young He brought Him to feed Jacob His people, and Israel His inheritance.

Response: **72 So He fed them according to the integrity of His heart; and guided them by the skilfulness of His hands.**